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Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products August 2013

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary August steel imports were **\$2.5 billion** (**2.6 million** metric tons) compared to the preliminary July totals of \$2.3 billion (2.2 million metric tons).

The August change in steel imports based on metric tonnage reflected increases primarily in blooms, billets and slabs and oil country goods; decreases occurred primarily in hot rolled bars and line pipes. Increases occurred primarily with Argentina, Korea, and Mexico. Decreases occurred primarily with China and Australia.

The year to date final statistics through July 2013 showed steel imports of 16.6 million metric tons compared with 18.5 million metric tons through July 2012. The largest commodity decreases occurred primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs and oil country goods. Increases occurred primarily in hot rolled bars, heavy structural shapes, and tin plate. The largest country decreases occurred primarily with Russia and Canada. Increases occurred primarily with Mexico and China.

Notes:

The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.

Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details, visit the Foreign Trade Division web site at www.census.gov/trade. On the website, you can access product by country and country by product tables.

The next release is October 24, 2013.